

lowering said suction mold to an extent that the shaping surface areas come close to the sheet of glass on said ring mold; and,

developing vacuums in selected ones of the suction chambers at different times to attract the sheet of glass successively against the shaping surface areas thereof while said ring mold is stationary for thereby bending the sheet of glass complementarily to the shaping surface areas.

4. (TWICE AMENDED) A method of shaping a planar sheet of glass on a planar ring mold, the sheet of glass heated nearly to a softening point thereof with the shaping surface areas of a plurality of divided suction chambers defined in a suction mold, the shaping surface areas having suction holes defined therein, comprising the steps of:

introducing a vacuum into one of the suction chambers to attract a first area of the sheet of glass against the shaping surface area of said one of the suction chambers through the suction holes thereof; and

at the same time as the first area of the sheet of glass is attracted, introducing a vacuum into another of the suction chambers to attract another area of the sheet of glass against the shaping surface area of said other of the suction chambers through the suction holes thereof while said ring mold is stationary.

5. (AMENDED) A method according to claim 2, wherein said ring mold is maintained spaced from said curved shaping surface[s]

D² areas while vacuum is developed in said opposite side suction chambers and [ends] said opposite side areas of the sheet of glass are [pulled away from said ring mold] bent toward the curved shaping surface areas.

Please add new claims 6-9 as follows:

D³ sub E 6. (NEW) A method according to claim 2, wherein said opposite side areas of the sheet of glass are bent successively and gradually from the central to the side areas.

7. (NEW) A method according to claim 2, wherein said shaping surfaces further comprise a metal or glass cloth covering.

8. (NEW) A method according to claim 2, wherein the sheet of glass is substantially planar prior to attracting to said suction chambers.

9. (NEW) A method according to claim 2, wherein the ring mold defines an open center portion below the central shaping surface area.

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully read and considered the Office Action dated April 26, 1995 and the references cited therein in parent application, Serial No. 08/204,536.